

Animal Services Department **Contra
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County**

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Beth Ward
Animal Services Director



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Beth Ward Chosen to Lead Contra Costa County Animal Services Department

New Director will Prioritize Lifesaving as a Guiding Principal

Martinez, CA – The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors has selected Beth Ward to serve as the new director of the County’s Animal Services Department. Ward brings a wealth of experience in animal service and welfare, having served as the vice president of the Silicon Valley Humane Society, and previously as the director of animal care for the Peninsula Humane Society. Ward plans to place an increased emphasis on lifesaving, with a goal of significantly reducing the number of euthanized animals, animal surrenders, and increasing the department’s live release rates.

"Everywhere I have worked my main focus has been working with individual animals, saving lives and collaborating with people to make that happen," Ward said. "I think the rescue groups in this county and the staff at animal services are all going to be on the same page, and share the same goal of trying to save more lives in Contra Costa County than ever before."

Ward is replacing outgoing director Glenn Howell, who served the department admirably for more than a decade.

"I realize there are large shoes to fill," said Ward. "I look forward to working with the department’s amazing staff and volunteers to achieve our mission and provide the highest level of animal care and public service to our community."

Contra Costa Animal Services is the largest animal welfare organization in Contra Costa County. The department operates two shelters, in Martinez and Pinole, where they provide high-quality animal care services, shelter homeless, abandoned and lost animals, place animals in safe, caring homes, and provide education and services to enhance the lives of people and their animal companions. Additionally, the department’s Field Services Division plays a crucial role in

protecting the health and safety of all people and animals in our community through enforcement of state and laws, protecting the public from animal injury and working to prevent animal cruelty, abuse and neglect.

For more information, or to schedule an interview with Beth Ward, contact Steve Burdo at steve.burdo@asd.cccounty.us.

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